





GOOD AND CHEAP BEER

FOR THE MILLION,

BY

THE USE OF

SUGAR & MOLASSES

IN

PUBLIC BREWERIES.

LONDON:

PELHAM RICHARDSON, CORNHILL;

WARING WEBB, LIVERPOOL; SIMMS AND DENHAM, MANCHESTER;

AND D. ROBERTSON, GLASGOW.

Price Sixpence.

1846.

44

Printed by Cuthbert & Southey, 156, Fenchurch Street.

R38317

GOOD AND CHEAP BEER
FOR THE MILLION,
BY THE
USE OF SUGAR & MOLASSES
IN
PUBLIC BREWERIES.

The pressing demand from IRELAND for all the lower descriptions of Grain, and the scarcity and high price of BARLEY, induce us at this particular juncture, earnestly to call public attention to the use of SUGAR and MOLASSES in *Public Breweries*, the PROHIBITION of which is still unexpectedly prolonged, to the detriment, as we shall be able to shew, alike of the Public Interest, the Revenue, and the British Colonies. Remonstrances, repeatedly addressed during a long succession of years, to various Administrations, have hitherto been unavailing, and although it may perhaps be admitted, that in the multitude of interests affected by the changes so extensively enacted, it was inevitable that

some should have preference, and others meet with neglect, not only on account of the impossibility of attending to all, but because the advocacy of some was carried on with greater zeal than that of others, still, it will now be wise to assume that the Public Interest in this important Question is sure to be overlooked, unless strongly pressed upon the attention of Government; and, in order to further that view, our present purpose is to bring forward the various points bearing upon it, with the full persuasion that we shall be able to make out a case sufficiently clear to silence all reasoning in opposition to its immediate success.

That in these days any class of the British people should be prevented, by fiscal regulations, from using their produce or property for purposes, alike beneficial to the common weal and to themselves, and untainted with any moral wrong, seems so preposterous, that indignation can scarcely be repressed when so direct an infringement of that rational liberty, which we are wont to cherish as our birthright, is pointed out. Yet it is a fact, that under various Acts of Parliament, Public or Licensed Brewers are liable to heavy penalties for making use, in the manufacture of Beer, of Molasses or Sugar, produced by our own countrymen in the Colonies, even after such materials shall have paid to the Trea-

sure a duty of some sixty per cent. on their cost. It is singular, that domestic Brewing does not labor under similar prohibition and difficulty, which amounts to this anomaly, that wealthy people may make and drink their beer as they like best, but that the poor man, obliged to buy his in small quantities, shall be debarred from having it either cheaper or better, than it can be produced from the single material of Barley.

It is not our intention to write a complimentary pamphlet, or to conceal any portion of the truth. Objections from the Excise Authorities, and fears of fraud on the Revenue, have been frequently advanced; but we deny their validity and shall refute them hereafter. We do not hesitate to call these allegations mere pretexts. At the time those penalties were enacted, monopoly was the rule of fiscal legislation, and protection of LAND the main object of our national councils. At that time, however, the Colonial interests shared in the fancied benefits of the protective system; on the one hand claiming the exclusive supply of the British markets, sought to be enforced through high differential duties, (rarely of practical efficacy), and on the other enjoying what they called an unlimited supply of labor. They therefore acquiesced, though with some reluctance, in minor grievances, such as this

prohibition to brew from Sugar and Molasses implies. But since our market has been thrown open to the Sugar of all the world, precluding the possibility of realizing any thing beyond the smallest profit on the cost of production, and since the emancipation of the Negro, coupled with various, no doubt well meant, but mostly very inconvenient, regulations, has left the British Sugar grower with a very restricted supply of labor; it really becomes a matter of vital importance to him to guard against the curtailment of the field of his exertions. His interest is now identical with that of the public, and we join him in his demand for liberty to dispose of his produce freely, and in his determination not to allow ANY interest to stand in the way of his just dealings, connected as they now are with the general welfare.

It is a favourable circumstance, and one we ought not to be loth to avail ourselves of in pressing this claim, that, unlike most similar demands, having reference to Commerce, concession to us, implies no reduction of Revenue, either temporary or permanent. Concession to us, whether it will effectually and lastingly augment Revenue, as we believe, or not, would at least fill up the gap which, owing to the present scarcity of Barley, must be experienced in the duties obtained from the materials now alone per-

mitted to be used in Brewing. The scarcity of Barley may be deduced from its present high price. The best Barley commands now 50s. the quarter ; the London average price for last week was 45s., that for the kingdom, returned as the average of six weeks, 41s 1d. But the general average price at the corresponding date for the last five years was as follows, viz.—

November, 1845	32s. 9d.
„ 1844	34s. 11d.
„ 1843	31s. 3d.
„ 1842	28s. 6d.
„ 1841	32s. 1d.

The average of these prices is 31s. 8d., or about 10s. per quarter less than the present price. Barley is therefore 30 per cent. or one third dearer than usual, which justifies the conclusion that the supply is short by at least one fourth. The Revenue therefore will fall off in the same ratio, and since the duty on Malt is near five millions, a deficiency in this respect, and irrespective of whatever concerns distillation, of one and a quarter million sterling, may be fairly expected.* What the Right Honourable the Chan-

* We may be told that the present prices are caused by speculation, and that there is as much Barley as usual. We do not believe it, but if it were so, and if speculation could affect prices to such a degree, it would prove that the usual supply is not adequate to the consumption of the country, which would therefore further confirm the necessity of the concession we demand.

cellor of the Exchequer's feelings will be, when the reality of this defalcation shall be submitted to him, we think we can perfectly divine. In his dilemma he will cast a longing eye after the piles of sugar hogsheads, and tardily seek sweet consolation where we now so willingly point it out to him. But a statesman should foresee events, prevent, not wait for difficulties, and have recourse to measures based on sound and just principles before his necessities deprive him of the merit rightly attached to them, or expose him to the charge of being incapable of an independent course of action,—of being, in truth, no statesman at all, but merely the subservient slave of circumstances.

With regard to this matter of Revenue, we cannot improve upon a statement equally fair and clear, inserted by an intelligent friend* of ours in "The Times" newspaper, and we make free to avail ourselves of some of his details to shew what advantages will accrue to the Treasury from a concession of our claims. The deficiency of Barley, which we have already deduced from its present price, and which must produce a defalcation of £1,250,000 of revenue, would be tantamount to 1,133,000 quarters of Malt. A quarter of Malt is generally considered

* October 22nd—Signed A. B.—"Sugar and Molasses in Breweries, &c

to have its equivalent in 180 lbs. of Sugar,* or about 260 lbs. of Molasses. (The supply of Molasses is too insignificant to enter into our calculation, and, however large, would not materially affect the result). This quantity of Malt would therefore be equivalent to 92,000 tons of Sugar, which if all of British growth, would yield little more duty than the deficient sum; but since, notwithstanding the large increase expected in next year's growth,† our supply of British Sugar will only exceed the increasing consumption by 10,000 tons, we set down these 10,000 Tons only at £14 per Ton duty, being £140,000

The remaining quantity required, therefore, would be of

Foreign growth, namely—

82,000 Tons, paying £21 per Ton duty, or . . £1,722,000

92,000 Tons of Sugar, producing together a	} £1,862,000
duty of	

Thus not only replacing the inevitable deficiency referred to, but yielding an excess beyond it, of £612,000.

As a matter of finance, the Right Honourable gentleman must then look upon our proposal as a ready resource, and upon us as his best friends and supporters; and since, at the same time that we offer such material assistance to the Exchequer, we

* The evidence given before the Parliamentary Committees in 1807 and 1831, by Messrs. Jackson, Smith, T. Smith, Binwell and Bockett, Distillers; and Mr. Martineau, Brewer, all goes to confirm this.

† See Table A in Appendix.

espouse and advance the principles on which the Administration has taken its stand, and on which the great interests of this country have now been fairly embarked, we mean the principles of Free Trade, we cannot for a moment conceive that we shall want the immediate support and countenance of Government, as soon as the urgency of the case shall have been brought fully and fairly under their consideration. A well digested measure, promulgated at the beginning of the Session, whilst there is legislative leisure, and whilst parties are divided and factious opposition ill organised, will have a fair chance of success; late in the Session it may be otherwise, business then will have inconveniently accumulated, opposition have grown strong, and party strife, then in full vigour, will consume the short space between the Easter recess and the prorogation, (if not, as is most likely, the dissolution) of Parliament, and retard the most just and most useful schemes of legislation. At a general election this question would be universally popular among the middle and lower classes, and would as certainly command the active support of the whole body of Brewers, whose numbers and influence in every district invest them with great importance, which, upon an occasion where the principles and elements of their own trade are so prominent, would be

exercised with telling effect. We entreat Ministers to recollect how many golden opportunities were lost when they were last in office, and how they have been jostled out of measures, to which they had certainly some claim. The country now looks with great confidence to the noble Lord at the head of the Government, but measures which are required, and to which there are no real impediments, must not be postponed, for others to reap the credit of.

We must of course look for opposition ; claims equally just and rational have ever experienced the fate of being zealously opposed. We may presume Government to be as unwilling to yield now as heretofore. At all times overwhelmed with weighty business, it is prone to put off what admits of delay, and is not forced on its attention with unremitting assiduity. But we venture to tell Government, that the surest way to escape much future toil, would be at once to aim at the simplification of all fiscal regulations. Let Ministers take the occasion of our grievances, to tell the Legislature and the Public that no prohibitive and restrictive measure upon TRADE ought to be continued, and all parties concerned will come forward, to point out what is amiss and what are the remedies. Let them, on bringing in a bill for abrogating that portion of the Act of

George III., c. 56, which inflicts a penalty of £200, (and confiscation of all produce as well as utensils employed), for using Sugar and Molasses in Public Breweries, and a subsequent clause with a penalty of £500, and similar forfeiture, for selling such Sugar and Molasses to Brewers ;—let Government, we say, on bringing in such a Bill, declare that monopoly of all kinds shall cease, and it soon will cease. Party strife will be banished to fields more suitable, than questions merely fiscal, and pursuits so innocent and useful as those of Sugar-growers, Merchants, Brewers, and other Traders.

It is generally thought that the Excise will resist the claim, on the specific ground that the concession of it will facilitate the introduction of other materials, generally considered deleterious and now under the same ban as Sugar and Molasses. Now we maintain that the use of Sugar would check that of such materials, more especially those used for colouring Beer, inasmuch as both Sugar and Molasses are more applicable, and certainly as innocuous as applicable, for that purpose. We have, however upon this point, the testimony of Sir J. H. Doyle, Commissioner of the Excise, before the Committee of the House of Commons, reported at page 253, question 3873, as follows, viz.:—

“ Do you think that the facilities which are now given to the introduction of deleterious drugs, if the Brewer be disposed to make use of them, are so great that the additional facility arising from the use of Molasses is hardly worth notice ?”

“ It is the opinion of our practical people, who are the most conversant with the survey of the beer, that some additional facility would be afforded to the introduction of deleterious articles upon the premises of Brewers, by the permission to use Molasses ; and, to a great extent, that appears to be borne out by the fact that, when sugar-colouring was used by law before, prosecutions certainly did increase, in that period of time, against Brewers, Druggists, and others, for manufacturing articles for the adulteration of Beer, and, I believe, an application was made to the Excise, on the part of the great Brewers, to repeal the law, which was in consequence done. That would appear rather to confirm the impression, *but it amounts to no more than this, that a greater facility, in our opinion, would be afforded to the introduction of those articles, not that it would lead to their introduction* AS IF, AT PRESENT, THERE WAS NO OPPORTUNITY TO USE THEM.”

The true sense of this evidence appears to be, that there is really not much in the apprehension. We doubt, in fact, the prevalence of such practices. The Brewers are proverbially a wealthy class of men, which would scarcely be the case if a large portion of them were daily undermining the rest by fraudulent operations. It is quite possible that a few may depart from a strictly correct course, but if we cast our eyes over the account of seizures of Drugs, &c., made

by the Excise on Brewers' premises (as appended to the said Report), we arrive at this dilemma, that either the extent of fraud is so trifling as not to be worth the notice or cost of so large a department, or else, that the efficiency of the Excise is such, that in this respect its services might quite as well be dispensed with! We give, herewith a list of these items, prefixing a general survey of the Brewing trade, from such data as are at our command.

The number of licensed Brewers during three years, as per Parliamentary Return of 1845, No. 14, Section A, pp. 24, 25, and 26, was,

	In 1842	1843	1844
England	43,368	43,875	43,485
Scotland	417	425	431
Ireland.	121	123	115
Total	43,906	44,423	44,031

We have no similar return for the years of which we are now going to speak, but we may fairly assume, that this respectable body of men in the years 1828-30, amounted to 40,000. The average quantity of Malt then used by them was probably 3,500,000 quarters per annum, or in $22\frac{3}{4}$ months, from 23rd June 1828, to 15th May 1830, 6,700,000 quarters of Malt, producing, at 108 gallons per quarter, the astounding quantity of 723 millions of gallons of good beer, worth,

at 1s. per gallon, 36 millions of our money.* Now the seizures made within the same period on Brewers' premises, by the Excise, are given in the Report of 1831, at p. 277, and consist of 146 items, which, for brevity's sake, we lump in a few lines; many of these enumerate such quantities as one-sixteenth of a lb. of sugar-colouring, but we add them together.

LIST OF SEIZURES.

34 lb. Quassia.	10 lb. Honey.
10 lb. Coriander Seed.	12 oz. Vitriol.
9 lb. 4 oz. Coccus Indicus.	$\frac{1}{2}$ gal. 12 oz. Guinea Pepper.
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Opium.	1 cask, & } Adulterated Beer.
$\frac{1}{2}$ gal. 4 lb. Liquorice.	1073 gals. }
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ gal. 314 lb. Molasses.	10 lb. & } Beer Colouring.
1 lb. Alum.	97 gals. }
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Salt of Tartar.	15 oz. Composition.
10 lb. Copperas.	Spent Hops.

Surely this beggarly account of seizures, for which we should be sorry to pay the insignificant sum of £50, contrasts most ridiculously with the 36 millions' worth of beer, and sets forth the Excise department somewhat in the light of

“ Ocean into tempest wrought,
To waft a feather,” &c.

We conclude this part of the subject, with a friendly admonition to the Excise Authorities,

* Nearly 20 millions per annum; a very striking fact, when compared with the consumption of SUGAR, TEA, and COFFEE, which, in 1845, was as follows:—

Sugar, 246,000 Tons	Value, duty paid, £12,000,000
Tea, 44,200,000 lbs.	„ £7,000,000
Coffee, 15,000 Tons	„ £1,750,000

to cease thwarting the business of the country, on the frivolous pretence of danger to the Revenue, illustrated by puerilities like these.

It has been stated that the additional demand for Sugar would inconveniently enhance its price; but it is clear that this would be proof additional of a most inadequate supply of Barley, for, if this were not the fact, the rise in the price of Sugar would put a stop to the use contemplated, and, as it were, annihilate itself. But we have good authority for saying, that the supply of Sugar for the year 1846 will be sufficiently large to satisfy the demands of any consumption likely to occur.* This will be made clear by Table A, in the Appendix, shewing the actual production of Sugar, with stocks in hand, for the last four years, as nearly as such things can be ascertained, with the probable supply

* It may be further remarked, that according to Messrs. Trueman & Cook's Statement of Commerce for 1830, the general production of Sugar appears to

have been in 1814	Tons.	401,000
„ 1830.	„	569,000
and if we take for 1846-7	„	1,000,000

we have a ratio of increase, which would give the

produce of 1850, equal to.	1,170,000
and for „ 1862	2,180,000

The consumption of the United Kingdom, according to the same authority, was in 1814.	Tons.	100,000
„ 1830.	„	176,000
„ 1846.	„	250,000

and it will therefore be no exaggeration to expect a consumption in 1850 of 350,000 Tons! We think it will be more.

for the season of 1847, which will surely be sufficient to dispel every fear of injurious enhancement of prices, consequent upon deficiency of supply. Large as the present production is, we do not despair to see it, even in our own time, more than doubled,* and we look equally for a rapid increase in the consumption of this country, and of all Europe. The statement, (which has made the round of the newspapers) in Table B in the Appendix, gives a pretty accurate account of the distribution of the enormous mass of Sugar produced in 1845, and appears to us to deserve, in more respects than one, the serious contemplation of all thinking men, and especially of the Finance Minister of every country.

When we further consider the progress of

* The following extract from Messrs. Wylie & Co.'s Circular from New Orleans will shew what is going on, in this respect in the United States :—

“ During the past three years, ninety-four *new* Sugar estates have been established, and many plantations have passed, and are passing from Cotton to Sugar. Formerly Sugar at $4\frac{1}{2}$ cents per lb. was considered a better return to the planter than Cotton at $6\frac{1}{2}$ cents; but, allowing for the greater safety of the Sugar crop, which in eight years out of ten is secured from frost, and for the improvement in its manufacture, it is now thought that Sugar at $4\frac{1}{2}$ cents is fully equal to Cotton at ten cents! The average yield of estates working their full power may be stated at 5 hlds. and 250 gallons Molasses, which, respectively at 4 cents $\text{\text{p}}^{\text{r}}$ lb. and 15 cents $\text{\text{p}}^{\text{r}}$ gall. would give 237 dollars 50 cents

From which must be deducted the estimated expense	75	„	0	„
---	----	---	---	---

Leaving a nett profit per slave	162	dollars	50	cents
---	-----	---------	----	-------

Now, the census returns gives 93,222 slaves as attached to the Cotton industry of this state, and, if any of our friends will take our average production of Cotton during the past five years, and the average cost during that period, they will see how small an interest our Cotton planter has had to extend his cultivation.”

consumption in our own country only, as shewn by the records in our possession, taken from Messrs. Trueman and Cook's statements, giving us the quantity of Sugar duty paid for more than a century, as follows:—

Consumption of Sugar in the United Kingdom, in the Years

1700	10,000	Tons	1803	74,628	Tons	1825	132,798	Tons
1710	14,000	"	1804	107,218	"	1826	162,753	"
1734	42,000	"	1805	103,805	"	1827	151,060	"
1754	53,270	"	1806	140,087	"	1828	177,880	"
1770 } @ } av. 72,500		"	1807	113,883	"	1829	168,670	"
1775 }		"	1808	142,140	"	1830	179,270	"
1785 } @ } 81,000		"	1809	125,225	"	1831	189,100	"
1789 }		"	1810	174,465	"	1832	182,800	"
1789	77,355	"	1811	161,337	"	1833	182,600	"
1790	76,811	"	1812	130,200	"	1834	187,100	"
1791	70,160	"	1813	110,453	"	1835	223,276	"
1792	68,080	"	1814	99,900	"	1836	196,256	"
1793	83,855	"	1815	94,448	"	1837	217,762	"
1794	74,470	"	1816	111,407	"	1838	218,648	"
1795	66,811	"	1817	148,040	"	1839	192,885	"
1796	77,703	"	1818	72,885	"	1840	180,344	"
1797	63,686	"	1819	123,736	"	1841	203,299	"
1798	73,827	"	1820	129,062	"	1842	193,823	"
1799	138,621	"	1821	133,813	"	1843	201,896	"
1800	75,346	"	1822	130,924	"	1844	206,999	"
1801	138,490	"	1823	142,133	"	1845	244,100	"
1802	112,515	"	1824	147,863	"			

and combine this with the opinion of the same gentlemen, in 1839, no doubt thought extravagant

1832 Ret'd home Consumption 265,534 at 182 1/2
1833 365,801 - 182 1/2

at the time, but realized in its fullest extent in 1846, four years before the period predicted, viz.:

“The consumption of Sugar this year has fallen off, and it is to be feared unless some relaxation of the bonds by which this trade is fettered, takes place, it will continue to fall off. On the other hand, there can be no doubt that by an encouragement of production, by assisting, or, at any rate, permitting, our colonists to obtain an ample supply of free labourers, which they are now unjustly prevented from obtaining, and, at the same time, making a material reduction in the Duty, that the consumption is capable of so large an increase, that any deficiency of Revenue would soon disappear, and we are decidedly of opinion that, under a free and enlightened course of policy, the year 1850 would see the consumption of Sugar in the United Kingdom at least 250,000 Tons.”

we venture to entertain the most sanguine expectations of a much greater extension of this branch of trade, provided only Government will give it a clear stage.

MALSTERS are supposed to object to the competition, which an extensive use of Sugar would imply; but surely, Malsters have no vested interest in opposition to public advantage, nor have they even any interest commensurate to that of our Sugar Colonies. How the latter have been treated, whether we refer to the great fact of Emancipation, or the late Sugar Bill, it is not our object to dwell upon. With the present deficient supply of Barley, Malsters may, perchance, extort large profits from Brewers, but were the

deficiency to continue, they would themselves be doubly sufferers, inasmuch as the high price of the raw material and the reduced consumption, consequent upon it, cannot be of advantage to the manufacturers of any commodity. Low prices and great consumption are the true interest of the Malster, as of all other traders; in short, the public interest is his also. Nor is there any instance on record, where the addition to our stock of commodities has injured the parties, previously engaged in supplying the wants of the community. The introduction of Gas may here be instanced, which it was predicted would annihilate the trade in Oil, Tallow, and Candles, while, on the contrary, an increase has been experienced in each one of them. The probable use of Sugar in Brewing will be, to mix it with Malt in the proportion of one to four, and we venture to predict as large an increase in the consumption of Malt from the measure we advocate, as the actual supply of Barley will admit of. We trust the Malsters are reasonable men, and if so, we are sure they will withdraw their opposition to it.

We have hitherto abstained from all allusion to Distillers, whose case is of a singular kind.*

* From the years 1809 to 1814, when Distillation from Sugar was permitted, the average price of Barley was 50s. per quarter; during these six years the consumption of Sugar in the United Kingdom was 801,580 Tons. In the six years previous (from

They are not at this moment under the ban of prohibition, as regards the use of Sugar; they have full liberty to use it, which would appear a vast concession, were it not for two impediments rendering this liberty altogether nugatory. In the first instance, Sugar cannot be used in the shape of a mixture with Malt or raw grain, but must be distilled by itself on premises perfectly distinct, and entered with the excise for that purpose; and, secondly, the duty paid to the Customs on Sugar would not be taken into consideration by the Excise, but the full tax would be exacted on the Spirits, as if the materials had paid nothing whatever to the revenue. The Distiller may be truly said, in this case, to be sacrificed between the Scylla of the one, and the Charybdis of the other department; his liberty of action resolves itself into a mockery and an impossibility. The practice with regard to distillation from Malt and Barley is this, that in 'Scotland,' where Malt is used as yielding a better flavoured spirit, the duty paid in the first instance on the Malt, is at certain settled

1803 to 1809) the consumption of Sugar was 681,761 Tons, and in the six subsequent years, from (1815 to 1820) it was 679,578 Tons. The quantity of Sugar used for Distillation therefore, during six years, may be assumed to have been 120,000 Tons, or 20,000 Tons per annum.

14

8/16

rates deducted from the amount of duty due on the product. This seems fair enough. In England the custom prevails of distilling from Raw Grain, producing a larger quantity, but an inferior Spirit. To obtain flavour, a portion of Malt is mixed with the Grain, but the duty previously paid on it is not allowed, and therefore is so much loss to the Distiller, who, in this case, has to pass through a two-fold crucible of the Excise, first in the shape of Malt, and then of Spirit. The quantity of Spirits produced in the United Kingdom was,

	In 1842	1843	1844
Gallons. . . .	18,841,890	18,864,332	20,608,525

A quarter of Barley is calculated to yield 18 gallons, and of Malt 16 gallons of Spirits; thus the quantity of Barley consumed in distillation may amount to 1,250,000 quarters.* A mixture of a fourth or fifth part of Sugar or Molasses would infinitely improve the quality and flavour of the Spirit and, if allowed to be used in a manner and on terms equivalent to that which prevails respecting Barley, would, on the grounds already stated, further encourage the use of the latter. We hardly dare touch a second time on the objections of our unfortunate friends of the

* The total quantity of Malt used in Brewing and Distilling annually is about 4,500,000 quarters.

Excise, but if for their own purposes, they have adhered to antiquated forms and prejudices, which have impeded the free employment of labour, capital, and skill, and prevented a full development of the power of production, for both private and PUBLIC advantage, the onus lies upon them, and they are bound to devise means for removing the incubus which presses upon our enjoyments, cripples our industry, and defrauds the nation of a contribution to the general prosperity, by which it would otherwise be benefitted.

The duty on MOLASSES is probably not quite adequate to that which a corresponding quantity of Malt would bring into the Treasury. We advocate neither privilege nor protection to any class. It is well known that had the Government been able to reduce the duty on Sugar to 1d. per lb., the British colonial interest would have been more indifferent about additional duties on Foreign Sugar. It may, however, be stated, that the quantity of Molasses is small, and will be still less, as the application of capital and skill necessary to keep up the competition against slave-grown Sugar, shall improve the produce. Yet, if it be correct that the duty on Molasses is not equivalent to that on Malt, let the duty received on the latter be affixed to the former,

What we ask for the public is, a fair stage and no favour. With less we do not mean to be satisfied.

We have but few words to say to the LANDED INTEREST. We believe that its opposition to a free trade in Corn was based in error, and has been detrimental chiefly to itself. We do not believe that Acts of Parliament can increase the amount of national wealth, which is, in fact, the result of labour, capital and intelligence, aided by adventitious causes such as climate and locality; and the value of landed property must needs fluctuate with the aggregate of national wealth. The Corn Law and all similar fiscal regulations, have an invariable tendency to divert the sources of national wealth from their natural course; they may diminish, but we do not see how they can increase our stock of possessions or enjoyments. The Landed Interest has well nigh lost its fancied advantages and seems none the worse for it; we will venture to foretell that it will soon be all the better. We would fain extinguish all recollection of past evils; we wish our landed proprietors to be relieved of the odium the Corn Law entailed upon them. Let these things be forgotten. But if they are to be forgotten, no attempt must be made to stick to the rag of protection which this

lingering affection for a former aberration—the exclusion of Sugar from the Brewers' vats—unavoidably implies. Opposition on their part will be as vain as unpopular; a liberal concession will be creditable and secure applause. We say, opposition on the part of the Landed Interest would be unsuccessful, because progress is the order of the day, and it is not in the nature of things, nor in our disposition, to submit longer to a deprivation of rights which belong to us as British subjects. We surely have a right, after paying a tax upon Sugar amounting to nearly sixty per cent., to do with it as we like, or at least to put it to any beneficial purpose we think proper. And seeing that the Landed Interest* did not succeed in excluding Foreign Barley, from competing with their own at an almost nominal duty, we are sure that they will not desire longer to exclude us, from the enjoyment of our right to brew Sugar and Molasses,

* Under any view however, there is in truth but little interference with the landed interest involved in the question, The use of Sugar for Brewing purposes must always mainly depend upon its price relative to grain. If the production of Barley should again be adequate to the demand, and the price fall, the competition of Sugar would be comparatively of little moment, but the right to use it is contended for as a principle, the public advantage of which in the event of scarcity of grain, and consequent extravagant price, cannot be denied. The present price of Sugar used for domestic purposes, may be quoted at 46s. @ 48s. @ Cwt. duty paid.

loaded with exorbitant duties, into good and wholesome beer.*

The last great effort to obtain the concession as regards Molasses, was made in 1831, when the report, to which we have incidentally alluded, was issued by the appointed Parliamentary Committee, a Report fully corresponding with the spirit prevailing in that *remote* age. The concluding words of that report were:—"Under these circumstances, however anxious (?) the Committee feel, to afford any relief to the West Indian Proprietors in their present state of unprecedented distress, they cannot consistently with what they feel due to the interests of the British Agriculturist, to that of the Brewers and Distillers, and above all to the collection of the Public Revenue, recommend to the House any measure for permitting the use of Molasses in the Breweries of this country." We cannot abstain from a few words in the way of castigation on these ill constructed and hypocritical phrases, which at best are based on obsolete views and principles, now indefensible, if not altogether defunct. In the first instance,

* The Brewers are desirous of permission to use Sugar, from a conviction, that in combination with Malt, it will greatly improve the quality of the Beer, and a Petition to the Lords of the Treasury, signed by twenty-three Brewers in the metropolitan County, has been presented, praying that the permission may be granted.

we cannot for the world understand why the Agricultural Interest, if benefitted (which we deny) should be benefitted at any cost to the general commerce of the Country and the Public at large?—If so; if a partial confiscation of intelligence, industry, and enjoyments in favour of that interest were admissible and justifiable,—why not a complete one? Why not take every man's property and talent to hand them over to the Agricultural Interest? If, secondly, the concession then claimed, would not benefit the Brewers and Distillers, what harm would there have been in granting it? They would not have used Sugar and Molasses unless it were their interest to do so; the mere liberty to use these materials could have as little injured them, as the liberty to eat bricks, and we are not aware there is any prohibition against that. Of the interests of the Revenue, we have in the third and last instance to observe, that when the natural rights of large classes, and the well being of the community militate against the actions of a Revenue Board, the presumption is, that the Board is a public nuisance, an injurious, rather than a beneficial establishment. Boards so situated, resemble the man who killed the goose for the sake of the golden egg. They check the use and development of our present and future

resources, which are the golden egg of the Nation and the Treasury, to save, for the moment, a little petty Revenue. Alas! that this were all! The desire to escape trouble and labour, and to avoid the substitution of intelligence for routine, rather than any care for the Revenue, we verily believe would be found the true motive which lurks at the bottom of the concluding sentence of the Report. Let intelligence and industry instead of politics and patronage, prevail at our public Boards, and we shall have none of this twaddle. As for getting up another dull Report of 4201 questions and answers, with appendices *ad infinitum*, on a matter so plain as our right to have our heavily taxed Sugar put to all rational uses equally with Wheat or Barley, we hold it impossible, that in these modern times so soporific an affair could be perpetrated or printed at the public expense. Committees are now differently arranged; but the whole was at the time well known to be a FARCE, the Report should have been entitled "*A Report of the Committee appointed to decide AGAINST the application of Sugar and Molasses to useful and beneficial purposes.*"

Having disposed, as we conceive, fully and fairly of every objection to the concession of the claim we put forth, we will now attempt to clu-

cidate some of the advantages likely to be derived from the application of free trade principles to Sugar, and from their extension, by the admission of that commodity for the purposes of Brewing and Distilling.

In the first instance, we believe, that by an admixture of Sugar and Molasses (which will probably be the only way in which they will be used) with Malt, greater variety and a more agreeable beverage will be produced.* This is by no means an unimportant item in the list of national enjoyments, or the aims of a sound national economy. Variety allows of choice, and that begets taste and independence, which, as tending towards a superior civilization, cannot be too much promoted.

We also believe that a further simplification of our fiscal code and a further advance towards commercial freedom, will tend towards the increased well being of our own country, and not a little to that of others. It will be a pro-

* A deputation was recently with the Chancellor of the Exchequer upon the subject of brewing from Sugar, and was received with that minister's wonted good humour and politeness. As the interview was about to close, the deputation was invited to partake of some bottled Beer, of the quality of which an opinion was afterwards requested. It was pronounced excellent; and amidst a good deal of jocularitv, one member of the deputation who for many years has frequently been accustomed to wait upon Chancellors of the Exchequer said, "it was the best thing he had ever got in Downing Street."—That BEER was made from SUGAR!

clamation, that no power in this country is sufficiently influential to perpetuate a wrong, or in this specific case to withhold a right,—a right which is predicated upon a tacit, yet no less binding admission of it, on the part of those who advocated and carried the late reduction in the duties on Foreign Sugar, upon the express grounds that liberal concessions would be made to the British Colonists both as regarded the facilities of competition, and the equality of privileges as British subjects. It will lead moreover to a close scrutiny of the effects of complicated fiscal regulations,—trammels of which we are impatient, believing them unnecessary, and knowing them to be injurious. The transactions of the British people are outgrowing the powers of official superintendence; the interests lately emancipated from these trammels have advanced immensely in unexpectedly short periods; those never so subjected, annually gather in, sums already nearly as large as are collected for the National Revenue, and certainly outstrip the concerns of the East India Company, whose subjects and Revenue alike are an illustration of how poor a result, a Government has been able to extract, from a hundred millions of people, in most favourable physical circumstances, but moving in the leading-strings of

official control, even though contrived with the best intentions and applied in the most perfect manner. It will be an additional proof, that in our professions of common sense and sound policy, we are in earnest, willing and able to carry them out to their fullest extent ; and it cannot fail but that our example, and the superior state of existence so rapidly developing itself in these kingdoms, will open the eyes of our neighbours, and by inducing them to emulate us in freedom, liberality and industry, enable them to secure to themselves some of the blessings we enjoy, and unite them with us in that course of national happiness, in which we may modestly, but truly say, we are at present far in advance of them.

Enemies although we be to all monopoly, yet there is one which we might possess without reproach, and that one the measure we advocate is well calculated to secure. Our local position indicates us, as the wholesale dealers of the world ; our fine sea coast and numerous ports, accessible all the year round ; our liberties, and our accumulation of capital, enable us to trade on better terms than the other nations of Europe. It is an axiom with us, that where there are most buyers, there also will most sellers congregate. Any additional domestic want of the commo-

dities of the world will accumulate them with us in increasing quantities, and, in turn, attract our neighbours more numerous as buyers. Our commerce is still capable of immense extension. The advance of which national interests are capable, might be traced in a variety of ways, in Cotton, in Coal, or in Iron ; but the development of our Railway System exhibits it in its latest and most stupendous features. The ten-fold increase of travelling, accompanied by the advantages of diminished cost and increase of speed, is, to our mind, a type of the possibilities of expanse in every branch of our doings and dealings. This mighty industry, springing up mushroomlike, is a monitor to our slothfulness in withholding the application of the rules of common sense from our Colonial and other interests, thus accounting for the want of progress in our consumption of Sugar and Malt, up to a comparatively late date. Few persons may be aware that the quantity of Malt made in ten years, from 1723 to 1732, was as large as the quantity made in the corresponding decennial period of the present century, viz , about 3,500,000 of quarters per annum !* We say our

* See Mr. M'Culloch's Dictionary.—The population of GREAT BRITAIN in 1730, was *six millions and three quarters* ; in 1831 it was *fifteen millions*, but the consumption of MALT at both periods was the same ; so much for PROTECTION and PROHIBITION !

CONSUMPTION OF SUGAR IN 1845,

Population according
to best authorities.

Quantity per head
in lbs. & tenths.

252

163	01
2	01

The following Table is curious and may lead to some useful conclusions.

If the general consumption of Sugar were equal to that prevailing

in Russia	or 1 $\frac{6}{10}$ lb. per head,	it would amount to	Tons 198,000
" Austria	" 2 $\frac{6}{10}$ "	" "	" 324,600
" France	" 8 $\frac{2}{10}$ "	" "	" 1,017,000
" Holland, Belgium, &c. "	12 $\frac{1}{10}$ "	" "	" 1,501,000
" United States	" 18 "	" "	" 2,233,000
" Great Britain	" 19 "	" "	" 2,357,000

ion were equal to what is allowed to Paupers in English Workhouses, according to

Mc Culloch, 34 lbs. per annum, it would amount to 4,219,000

to what is allowed to Sailors in the British Navy, 2 ounces per day, would amount to 5,662,000

to what is probably used amongst the middling Classes in England, namely, 1 lb. per individual in the week, would amount to 6,453,000

APPENDIX.

TABLE A.

Production and Consumption of Sugar, from 31st March to 31st March, following,

	1843.	1844.	1845.	1846. Estimated.	1847. Estimated.
Stock of Sugar on the 31st March, in Europe . . . Tons	97,000	80,000	122,000	121,000	100,000
Growth of Sugar—					
British West Indies	125	126	142	117	140
Mauritius	23	25	36	43	50
Bengal, &c.	54	57	67	70	80
French Colonies	80	87	102	80	80
Dutch and Danish West Indies	25	23	25	20	25
Cuba and Porto Rico	185	230	115	200	260
Java	55	63	90	95	95
Siam, Manilla, China, &c.	13	13	15	26	30
Brazils	63	89	93	75	100
Louisiana	70	35	95	90	100
Beet Root	55—748,000	60—808,000	70—850,000	80—896,000	85—1,045,000
Total Supply	845,000	888,000	972,000	1,017,000	1,145,000
Deduct Stock at the end of the Twelve Months . . .	80	122	121	100	
Consumption Tons . .	765,000	766,000	851,000	917,000	,000

Analysis of Specimens of Ancient British, of Red Indian,
and of Roman Pottery. By Mr Murray Thomson.*

Ancient British Pottery.

The specimen of this pottery was found last spring (1856) on the property of William Stirling, Esq. of Keir, along with the remains of a human skeleton, and so broken into fragments as to be of no archæological value

The clay, or rather loam, from which this pottery had been made had evidently undergone little or no previous preparation; the fragments were brittle, and had not been highly fired;—in this respect being inferior to the pottery of the Ojibbeway Indians about to be described. The fractured edges of the pieces presented two layers, the outside one of a dun hue, the inner black; but neither of the surfaces was glazed. Its brittleness rendered this pottery easily reduced to powder, which had a uniform olive-brown colour.

	No. 1.	No. 2.	Mean.
Silica,	52.49	51.24	51.86
Alumina,	13.29	12.46	12.87
Peroxide of iron, containing phosphates corresponding to 1.01 Phosph. Acid, and also a trace of Manganese, }	18.19	18.94	18.56
Lime,	4.85	5.13	4.99
Magnesia,	0.60	1.64	1.12
Soda,	3.06	2.97	3.01
Potass,	0.55	0.78	0.66
Organic matter,	2.14	2.33	2.23
Water,	4.70	4.76	4.73
	<hr/> 99.87	<hr/> 100.25	<hr/> 100.23

* Read before the Royal Society of Edinburgh, 20th April 1857.

Ojibbeway Pottery.

The specimen of this ware which I examined, in general appearance very much resembled the Ancient British Pottery, being like it made of unprepared clay, marked on one of its surfaces by lines forming part of some simple design. In colour, the surfaces of this ware were whity-brown. The section of the fragments presented a black appearance, almost as if the clay previous to firing had been mixed with some carbonaceous substance. It was, however, better fired than the British ware, and rung to some extent when two pieces were struck together.

	No. 1.	No. 2.	Mean.
Silica, . . .	42·70	43·60	43·15
Alumina, . . .	22·71	22·12	22·41
Peroxide of iron, . . .	10·58	10·03	10·30
Lime, . . .	1·33	1·46	1·39
Magnesia, . . .	2·60	2·88	2·74
Organic matter, . . .	10·28	10·10	10·01
Water, . . .	9·79	9·99	9·89
	<hr/> 100·19	<hr/> 100·18	<hr/> 100·185

Lustrous Red Roman or Samian Ware.

This pottery has already been analysed more than once, and my analysis was only confirmatory of those already published. It would appear that in many of those pottery clays peroxide of iron can to a very great extent replace alumina, for, in the specimen I analysed, the oxide of iron is in greater quantity than the alumina; while in all the analyses of this pottery I have seen, the alumina is the greater.

The specimen of this ware which I analysed was procured from the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries, Edinburgh.

After the analysis of the mass of this pottery was finished, I scraped several of the pieces at my disposal, so as to ascertain the composition of the glaze of this beautiful ware. I could only procure enough for a qualitative analysis; but this was sufficient to show a circumstance already noticed about this pottery, namely, that its glaze contains no tin, lead, or antimony, or any of the heavy metals.

Silica,	.	.	.	.	.	54.78
Peroxide of iron, containing phosphates	}					21.43
corresponding to 0.42 Phosph. Acid,						
Alumina,	.	.	.	.	.	8.74
Lime,	.	.	.	.	.	12.67
Magnesia,	.	.	.	.	.	1.33
Water,	.	.	.	.	.	1.26
						<hr/>
						100.21



